

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application. Claims 1-20 are pending in this application.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,148,346 to Hanson (hereinafter "Hanson"). Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-20 are not anticipated by Hanson.

Hanson discloses:

The present invention provides a dynamic device driver system that provides two-way communication between various peripheral devices and various operating systems coupled across various types of networking systems. The host computer system controls a peripheral device coupled to a host computer system having an operating system with a translation layer and a processor, wherein the peripheral device has an associated peripheral device driver and the host computer system is coupled to the peripheral device via a connection selected from the group of a direct connection, local area network connection and public data network connection. The host computer system assigns an address to the peripheral device to distinctly identify the peripheral device to the host computer system and selects the peripheral device according to the assigned address. Also the host computer system retrieves the stored peripheral device driver of the selected peripheral device, interprets the retrieved peripheral device driver and controls the peripheral device according to user initiated controlling commands in the operating system through the translation layer to the interpreted peripheral device driver. Col. 2, lines 8-28.

The Hanson reference further discloses:

In accordance with still yet other aspects of the present invention, the peripheral device driver includes a graphical user interface (GUI) for entering of user initiated controlling commands. The GUI of the peripheral device driver displays the status of the peripheral device and a list of predefined user-selectable options for the selected peripheral device. (Emphasis Added) Col. 2, lines 45-50.

Thus, Hanson discloses a device driver system that provides for communication between peripheral devices and one or more operating systems via a network. In particular, Hanson "incorporates object oriented programs to create a single device driver that provides communication between any host computer system and any peripheral device." Col. 4, lines 7-9. Thus, the Hanson reference is directed toward device drivers that provide communication between hosts and peripheral devices.

Claim 1 of the present application recites:

A method of configuring a printer, the method comprising:
creating a printer menu structure; and
installing the printer menu structure on the printer, wherein the printer menu structure is installed on an erasable storage device in the printer.

Thus, claim 1 includes "creating a printer menu structure" and "installing the printer menu structure on the printer". Neither of these claim elements are disclosed or suggested by Hanson. As mentioned above, the Hanson reference discloses a device driver system that allows devices to communicate with one another. Although Hanson mentions the ability to change settings on peripheral devices, Hanson fails to disclose or suggest "creating a printer menu structure" and fails to disclose or suggest "installing the printer menu structure on the printer". The device driver system disclosed in Hanson is unrelated to creating and installing a printer menu structure on a printer.

The current Office Action (dated 10/22/2003), on page 2, cites Figs. 3-8 (specifically Figs. 6A to 6D) and column 5, lines 13-60 of Hanson as support for "creating a printer menu structure". Figs. 3-8 of the Hanson reference

illustrate various menus that may be displayed by a host computer system. As described in Hanson, "the peripheral device driver includes a graphical user interface (GUI) for entering of user initiated controlling commands. The GUI of the peripheral device driver displays the status of the peripheral device and a list of predefined user-selectable options for the selected peripheral device." (Emphasis Added) Col. 2, lines 46-50. Thus, Figs. 3-8 illustrate predefined user-selectable options for a peripheral device. These Figures fail to make any reference to creating a printer menu structure. Figs. 6A - 6D illustrate examples of these predefined user-selectable options for a particular printer.

As mentioned above, the Office Action cites column 5, lines 13-60 of Hanson as support for "creating a printer menu structure". The cited text is related to the discussion of Figs. 3-6D. For example, the cited text includes "A list of features for each of the printers is provided to help the user select which printer to use. The list of features include printer emulation, resolution, print speed, paper and envelope sizes, comments or additional printer features." Col. 5, lines 39-43. These features are settings or options associated with a printer. Nothing in the cited text discloses or suggests the creation of a printer menu structure.

The current Office Action, on page 2, cites column 7, lines 30-34 of Hanson as support for "installing the printer menu structure on the printer". The cited text states, "The network administrator is prompted to insert URL codes that access the help files that are in HTML format. The HTML formatted help files may be stored in the printer or remotely from the printer". The previous sentence in Hanson states, "The help file setup GUI allows the network administrator to set up a primary and secondary link to the printer's help file." The cited language is referring to identifying a link (e.g., URL

codes) associated with a help file. The language does not disclose or suggest installing anything on the printer. Further, the language makes no mention of a printer menu structure. Thus, the cited language fails to disclose or suggest "installing the printer menu structure on the printer".

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over Hanson. Given that claims 2-10 depend from claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-10 are likewise allowable over Hanson for at least the reasons discussed above.

Claim 11 recites:

A printer comprising:
a display panel to display a plurality of menu elements;
a user interface coupled to the display panel to allow a user to select among the plurality of menu elements; and
a data communication interface coupled to the display panel to allow the printer to receive a printer menu structure from a remote device.

As discussed above, the Hanson reference fails to disclose or suggest creating and installing a printer menu structure on a printer. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Hanson fails to disclose or suggest "a data communication interface coupled to the display panel to allow the printer to receive a printer menu structure from a remote device" as recited in claim 11.

The current Office Action, on page 4, cites column 8, lines 16-40 of Hanson as support for "a data communication interface coupled to the display panel to allow the printer to receive a printer menu structure from a remote device". The cited text discusses Fig. 9 of Hanson, which is related to a process in which a user can make changes to a peripheral's settings. The cited text includes "if a user chooses to change a setting of the identified peripheral

at 102, the loader 50 retrieves the GUI objects 52 from the peripheral device 56 and loads it on the host computer system at 104.” Col. 8, lines 16-19. This text fails to disclose or suggest that a printer receives a printer menu structure from a remote device. Instead, the language of Hanson is merely discussing changes to a peripheral’s settings.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 is allowable over Hanson. Given that claims 12-15 depend from claim 11, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12-15 are likewise allowable over Hanson for at least the reasons discussed above.

Claim 16 recites:

One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a computer program comprising the following steps:
creating a printer menu structure; and
installing the printer menu structure on a printer, wherein the printer menu structure is installed on an erasable storage device in the printer.

As discussed above with reference to claim 1, Hanson fails to disclose or suggest “creating a printer menu structure” and fails to disclose or suggest “installing the printer menu structure on a printer”. Thus, for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 16 is allowable over Hanson.

Given that claims 17-20 depend from claim 16, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 17-20 are likewise allowable over Hanson for at least the reasons discussed above.

Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Claims 1-20 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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By: Steven R. Sponseller

Steven R. Sponseller

Reg. No. 39,384

(509) 324-9256